

AGENDA



Thursday, September 27, 2007

**Watershed Protection and Development Review
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 50**

Subject: Authorize the City Manager to apply for a \$200,000 Brownfields Assessment Community-Wide Petroleum grant offered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency over three years beginning Fiscal Year 2008 through 2010.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Catherine Esparza, 974-1954; Julia Lee, 974-3357

Prior Council Action: November 4, 2004 - Resolution to apply for U.S. EPA Brownfields Assessment Community-Wide Petroleum grant. June 23, 2005 - Resolution to authorize the negotiation and execution of a memorandum of agreement with the U.S. EPA for a \$200,000 Brownfields Assessment Community-Wide Petroleum grant.

Since the award of a U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) Brownfields Assessment Community-Wide Petroleum grant on June 23, 2005, the City of Austin, Watershed Protection and Development Review (WPDRD), Brownfield staff has conducted analyses of the official City and State Underground Storage Tanks' (UST) databases to create an inventory of local properties containing abandoned Underground Storage Tanks.

The UST properties have been identified and GIS mapped, tracked and invited to participate in the City of Austin Brownfields UST program. Participants are provided funding for environmental site assessments, the first step toward revitalizing underutilized brownfield properties. Several UST properties participating in the City's program are currently in the process of remediation, working towards compliance with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality requirements, and are being revitalized. Continuing the efforts of the 2005 Grant, we are requesting approval to apply for this additional Brownfields Assessment Community-Wide Petroleum grant. The grant will provide additional funding for environmental site assessments, thus allowing the City to reinvest in the community through the appropriate reuse of existing underutilized urban brownfield properties.